Information for Potential Executive Mentors

What is the K-State Business Executive Mentor Program?

The College of Business Administration started the Executive Mentor Program in September 2011. Our program pairs current business students (undergraduate and MBA) with professionals who provide career advice, assistance in the development of the student’s interpersonal and communication skills, guidance in the internship and job search process, and networking opportunities, all in hopes of better preparing our students for their professional lives.

What are the requirements to be an Executive Mentor?

Executive mentors need not be alumni of the College of Business Administration or even of Kansas State University. We are looking for successful individuals with at least 7 years of professional experience in business, or related to business. An executive mentor must have an interest in and the ability to nurture a student’s professional development and have access to a network of individuals, both professional and personal, from whom the mentor can draw on as resources to assist the student.

Why should I get involved?

Perhaps you had a great mentor when you were in college, or thinking back on it, wish that you would have. This is an excellent opportunity to provide that type of assistance and advantage to a young person nervous about starting his/her career. Students need someone who will provide them with honest feedback and a realistic picture of what professional life is like. As an executive mentor, you will gain a better understanding of young professionals entering the workplace; their interests, skill sets and academic preparation. You will have the opportunity to shape these students into the type of employees and colleagues with whom you wish to work. Additionally, this is a great opportunity to increase awareness of your company at Kansas State University.

What is the time commitment?

We expect mentors and students to communicate with each other at least once per month. Communication could be an in-person meeting, phone conversation, video chat, email or text. The method you use and how often you communicate is up to you and your student to decide. Once you select a student to mentor, you work with that student until s/he graduates or until one or both of you decides to discontinue the mentoring relationship.

I do not live in or near Manhattan. Is this a problem?

The vast majority of our executive mentors are located outside Manhattan with 35% residing outside the state of Kansas or the Kansas City metro area. We have executive mentors on both coasts and everywhere in between. While this often means fewer in-person meetings, technology makes it possible to build a meaningful relationship at a distance. Students may also apply for travel money to take a trip to visit their long distance mentor.

How do I get started?

If you are interested in being an Executive Mentor, please complete the brief application on our website:

http://cba.k-state.edu/alumni-and-partners/executivementor/

Do you want more information before you commit? There are additional resources on our website, and please do not hesitate to contact our office at (785)532-3982 or ementor@k-state.edu with questions. We would be more than happy to speak with you in-person to discuss the program in more detail.